## TORREYA

Vol. 36

January-February, 1936

No. 1

## Plant records from southwestern New York

IRVING WILLIAM KNOBLOCH

During the course of a season's botanizing in a very carefully botanized area of New York state, a small number of plants were turned up which had better be reported upon at this time. All published records of plant life in this area were examined and it is felt that the following plants will prove valid additions to our flora and in one case adds a new station for a well-beloved shrub.

Thelypteris spinulosa (O. F. Müll.) Nieuwl., the spinulose shield fern, is listed as "infrequent" in this area being known only from "Rock City" north of Salamanca. I have found it in two places this past summer in the Allegany State Park in Cattaraugus county thus adding two stations in this county. Near Rushford, in Allegany county, I found a single plant this summer. This appears to be the first record of this species from Allegany county. Mrs. Charles Congdon of Salamanca, N.Y., found a single plant near Chautauqua Lake some time ago, which appears to be the first reported record from Chautauqua county. Since there are few amateur botanists in this area familiar with the distinctive appearance of this species, it may be that it has been confused with the abundant variety intermedium. Dr. Edgar Wheery has passed upon the specimens in my possession.

The variety fructuosa of the above species, said to be a leafy form of the variety intermedium by some, was located by Mrs. Charles Congdon in the Allenberg Bog in Cattaraugus county. As can be imagined, it is a very attractive fern. I can find no record of its being found previously in New York state but it may have been. Mr. Charles Weatherby identified this specimen for me.

Polypodium virginianum L. forma deltoideum (Gilbert) Fernald was located in the region just west of Allegany State Park

in Cattaraugus county and was represented only by a single plant. It grew in a crevice of a block of Salamanca conglomerate rock. Mr. Charles Weatherby kindly identified this plant.

Many rare plants have been found by other botanists in the place called "Balsam Swamp" in the Allegany State Park, the only such area in the park. Last summer, I was able to add another rare plant, this species being in the nature of a plant freak. I refer to Osmunda cinnamomea L. forma incisa (J. W. Huntington) Gilbert which was determined by Mr. Weatherby. This is a startling form of a common fern in which the pinnules are greatly and irregularly incised. Some basal pinnules are greatly elongated in addition. One plant was found in fruit and the fertile frond was part fertile and part sterile or leafy. The latter plant is called forma frondosa (T. & G.) Britton.

Rhododendron maximum L. is known from several places in Cattaraugus county. I am pleased to add another station to the all-too-few local stations. Last summer, following upon directions from one of the Senaca Indians on the nearby Allegheny reservation, I found a fairly large quantity of this plant in a swamp on the reservation near Red House, N.Y.

Buffalo, N.Y.